

Swift Guitar Lessons

How to Strum Without a Pick - 5 Useful Patterns

♩ = 120

Video Demonstration

In developing your fingerstyle strumming technique, I recommend you consider the following tips:

1. Practice dynamics by strumming as softly as possible, then gradually increase the volume and intensity.
2. Consider the area in which you strum and how it effects the brightness and warmth of your performance.
3. Try targeting different strings on your up and downstrokes and consider the contrast it creates.
4. Experiment with texture as you alternate between strumming with your nails and the flesh of your fingertips.

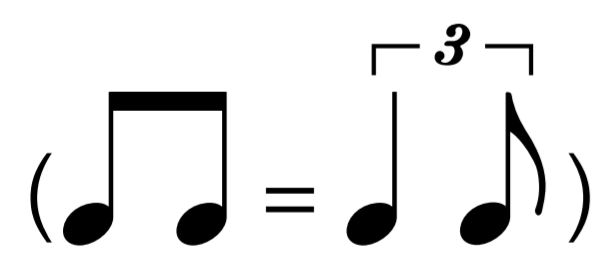
G

C

Dadd11

G

Pattern 1 - Calypso



Pattern 2 - Percussive Ballad

♩ = 75

This pattern can also be speed up and paired with dom7 chords for a grooving blue feel.

(♩ = ♪)

Pattern 3 - The Blackbird

♩ = 96

G C Dadd11 C G

Pattern 4 - Folk-Style Hybrid

♩ = 100

G C D G

Pattern #5 - Percussive R&B

♩ = 107

Dm7 G7add13 Cmaj7 C#dim7